

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended): A fuel injection valve for opening and closing a needle

valve by driving an armature with a solenoid, said fuel injection valve comprising:

said needle valve;

said armature;

said solenoid comprising a coil; and

a buffer portion damping a change of fuel pressure caused by valve bounce when the needle is closed, said buffer portion being an elastic member disposed at a position at which said buffer portion faces and contacts a fuel passage located at an upstream side with respect to an end face of said armature located on a side of a nozzle opening side,

wherein said elastic member is provided between a sleeve and ~~said~~ a core in order to form said buffer portion, said sleeve being disposed between ~~a~~ said core and a valve holder of the solenoid, said elastic member being attached to a portion of said sleeve located near an end portion of said coil, said end portion of said coil being the end portion of said coil nearest to said needle valve with respect to an opposite end portion of said coil, and said elastic member extending in a perpendicular direction away from said sleeve toward said core.